

T O R R A N C E

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Torrance Madrona Marsh Preserve Closed Due to Potential West Nile Virus Presence

Torrance, Calif., June 25, 2010 – The City of Torrance's Madrona Marsh Preserve (Preserve) will be closed for a period of time as a health precaution. On Thursday, June 24, 2010, the Los Angeles West Vector Control informed the City of Torrance of a potential West Nile Virus presence at the Madrona Marsh Preserve located at 3201 Plaza del Amo.

The City of Torrance places high priority on the safety and well-being of all community members. As such, the City is committed to providing safe facilities where community members can enjoy programs, events and activities. With this in mind, the City decided to close the Preserve as a precautionary measure until a resolution can be reached. City staff will be meeting with Vector Control on Tuesday, June 29, 2010 to discuss the issue and determine a course of action. The City's goal is to reopen the Preserve as soon as possible without compromising the health and safety of visitors.

The City asks for and appreciates the cooperation and patience of visitors and residents as staff addresses this issue. The community will be advised upon the Preserve's reopening. For more information please contact the Madrona Marsh Nature Center at (310) 782-3989.

About the Madrona Marsh Preserve

The Madrona Marsh is one of the last remaining vernal marshes in Los Angeles County. A vernal marsh is a depression in the land flooded by runoff water from surrounding upland slopes. Vernal means spring, thus by connotation the marsh is fed by winter and spring storms. The Preserve is a back dune habitat within the greater El Segundo Sand Dune System. The fine sand particles of this ancient dune system have been carried from the coastal dunes by winds for thousands of years.

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